

43rd Professional Development Conference

WORKSHOPS & ROUNDTABLES

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

1. **Deutsch mit Hans Hase im Kindergarten und in der Grundschule – Kennenlernen des kindgerechten Materials und Vorstellung zur Umsetzung im Deutschunterricht** • Jasmin Root-Joswig, Goethe-Institut Washington, DC, GEM

In diesem Workshop stellen wir das Unterrichtspaket Hans Hase vor. Nach einer kurzen Einführung besprechen wir anhand von Beispielstunden das für den Vorschulunterricht entworfene Material, das direkt in den eigenen Unterricht umgesetzt werden kann.

2. **The Use of Generative AI Tools for German-language Teachers** • Dr. Alexander Pichugin, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ & GLSC, NJ

The workshop explores the integration of advanced AI technologies in German language education targeting specifically the teachers of the German-language Saturday schools. The workshop delves into the potential of generative AI tools, such as chatbots and content generators, to enhance the teaching and learning of the German language. We will discuss the benefits of personalized language learning experiences, improved engagement, and scalability provided by these tools. The workshop will concentrate on the practical application of the generative AI tools in a classroom of a German-language Saturday school. Workshop participants will gain insights into how AI can transform the way German is taught, making language instruction more accessible and effective and lesson planning and activities preparation more efficient.

For better participation experience, it is recommended to bring a laptop or a tablet.

3. **Neurodiverse Learner I: Addressing Behavioral Challenges of Saturday Morning Language Classes** • Dr. Ann Greenberg, Greenwich, CT

This workshop will provide explanations of several types of learning challenges facing special needs students, and techniques to address them in the classroom. Methods to engage typical but unmotivated learners will also be discussed.

4. **Schwierigkeiten beim Erwerb der Partnersprache Deutsch auf unterschiedlichen Sprachlevels – Motivation und Organisation von funktionalen Lerngruppen** • Robert Bartz, John F. Kennedy School, Berlin, Germany

Die JFKS Berlin ist eine amerikanisch-deutsche staatliche Berliner Schule. Seit Gründung kämpft die Schule für eine gleichberechtigte Sprachausbildung in beiden Muttersprachen auf „Augenhöhe“. Ausgehend von der aktuellen Lage in der Sprachausbildung beschreibt der Referent unterschiedliche Maßnahmen aus mehreren Perspektiven. Er beschreibt Erfolge und Rückschläge und bereitet so eine Grundlage für die Diskussion verschiedener Fragestellungen bzgl. des Fremdspracherwerbs in allen Sprachniveaus.

5. **Special Information on Stipends by the DAAD and German Foundations for Students of GLSC Sprachschulen** • Roxanna Pleacoff, DAAD, NY

DAAD representative Roxana Pleacoff will give an overview of DAAD grant programs for study and research in Germany and information about other German funding organizations. In addition, she will share resources such as online databases with information about German universities.

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

6. **Fibel und was noch? Erstleseunterricht in DaF-Klassen** • Dr. Bernd Nuss, South Academy of International Languages, Charlotte, NC

Beginning readers and beginning language learners face challenges. The combination often seems unsurmountable. A brief introduction provides a theoretical foundation. The main part of the workshop offers examples of an integrated learning sequence through a book project (The Pied Piper of Hamelin) and high-quality learning games that offer flexible learning opportunities for reading and language learning. All material will be made available to participants.

7. **Why Pronouns Matter** • Samantha Shipeck, AATG, NJ

Participants learn and apply best practices for establishing an LGBTQIA+-affirming and gender diversity-inclusive German classroom environment. After a crash course in terminology, participants investigate data on the experience of LGBTQIA+ students and the basis for explicit inclusion as justified by the ACTFL Standards and Queer Pedagogy Theory. After viewing resources and suggestions for language and representative authentic resources, participants workshop common lesson themes to be more inclusive and discuss challenges they still face.

8. Neurodiverse Learner II: Overcoming Difficulties with Music • Dunja Pechstein, Musikgarten, Boston, MA

We will learn different musical activities that can be helpful in a classroom with neurodiverse and neurotypical learners. Through these musical activities we will address German language acquisition, motivation, classroom management, transitioning and individual support of children with different learning styles.

9. We Talk Soccer – Wir sprechen Fußball • Fatih Ada, Erich-Bracher-Schule, Kornwestheim-Pattonville, Germany (via Zoom)

Explore our unique online language lessons for students learning German. Using soccer as a catalyst, we offer engaging activities that captivate children, making learning German a delightful experience. Our scientifically-backed exercises enhance language acquisition and physical development simultaneously. Students enjoy a rare opportunity to play soccer with a native speaker, immersing themselves in both the sport and the language. Dive into this inspiring learning environment where sport and language merge seamlessly. Join us for an unparalleled blend of fun, movement and education!

10. Deutsche Sprache und Kultur: Motivation für Deutschlerner in der Diaspora • Dr. Olga Martens, Sprach- und Partnerschaftsinitiative e.V., Gelnhausen, Germany

Wie sieht die Welt der deutschen Minderheiten (DMI) in Europa aus? Der Workshop gibt einen Einblick in die Erfahrung der DMI zu Lernmotivation für alle Altersgruppen: Intrinsische und extrinsische Motivation, Rolle der Eltern, Freunde und des sozialen Umfeldes.

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

11. Geschichten für kurze Aufmerksamkeit für Schüler ab 3 Jahre • Bettina Mahoney, German International School, NY

Children learn about their world through play. This workshop will give educators suggestions on how to design their curriculum with playful ideas using props, stories, songs, and games.

12. DACHL Unterrichtsmaterialien auf B1-C1 Niveau • Molly Rowland, Deutsche Schule Charlotte, NC

The German-speaking world is comprised of multiple nations, including Austria. Teaching about these other nations gives students a broader view of German-speaking Europe. MeinSprachportal provides instructors of German with materials at all levels, from A1-C1, with topics related to German language and culture within an Austrian context. In this workshop we will concentrate on the B1-C1 materials. Instructors will learn about how to utilize this portal and its classroom material to further improve and broaden their intermediate to advanced language instruction.

13. Einer schläft immer? Nicht in meiner Klasse! • Susan Richardson, Immersion School Milwaukee, WI

With the goal of engaging students to increase interest and motivation, this workshop will provide participants with ideas from a German Immersion setting. Activities and approaches are clustered in five categories: Activity, Expectations, Inquiry, Out-of-the-Box, and Unexpected.

14. Jugend debattiert im Unterricht • Dr. Juliane Hofmann, Deutsche Schule Charlotte, NC

The Jugend debattiert curriculum by the Hertie Foundation is an extraordinary tool to acquire language competence. Curriculum content, practice variations, customizability for various age groups (grade 3 and up), and DSD 1/2 exam preparation (from a debate to an essay) are presented. Working in small groups means that student speaking times and fluency increase exponentially; students with test and conversational anxiety benefit in particular. Workshop participants will actively try out various practices and a micro-debate.

For better participation experience, it is recommended to bring a laptop or a tablet.

15. Neues für das Studium aus Deutschland • Nicolette Gahleitner, ZfA Atlanta, GA with guest speakers (online) introducing the *Studienkolleg TU Berlin* and the *Duale Hochschule Hamburg (BHH)*

This workshop will provide general information on studying in Germany, e.g. admission requirements for German universities or "Studienkollegs", application for scholarships etc. It will talk about the latest developments, give an overview of the German academic landscape and point out the advantages for German language school students.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. • Roundtables

Roundtable I: **Curriculum in Pre-K – K Classes** • Moderator: Sigrid Belluz, Deutsche Schule Charlotte, NC & GLSC, NJ

Roundtable II: **Generative AI in Language Education** • Moderator: Dr. Alexander E. Pichugin, Rutgers University, NJ & GLSC, NJ

Roundtable III: **How to Overcome Learning Challenges in the Classroom** • Moderator: Dr. Juliane Hofmann, Deutsche Schule Charlotte, NC

Roundtable IV: **Cooperation with Parents and Stakeholders** • Moderator: Barbara Rellstab, Rella's Spielhaus, NY

Roundtable V: **Administrative Matters** • Moderator: Dr. Heidemarie Tirey, German Saturday School, MA and GLSC, NJ